



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**REGION 8**  
**1595 WYNKOOP STREET**  
**DENVER, COLORADO 80202**  
**<http://www.epa.gov/region8>**

SEP 16 7/10

Ref: 8EPR-N

Mr. Lee Potter  
Federal Highway Administration  
26 17 East Lincoln Way, Suite D  
Cheyenne, WY 82001-5662

Re: Jackson South U.S. Highway 26/89/189/191  
Final EIS, CEQ 20100370 [FHWA-FEIS-08-01]

Dear Mr. Potter:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8 (EPA) has reviewed the U.S. Highway 26/89/189/191 Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) in accordance with our responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

While the EPA has a few concerns regarding encroachment into wetlands and surface waters (i.e., encroachment on 1,200 lineal feet of waters of the U.S., and loss of 0.94 acres of wetlands), and potential adverse impacts to wildlife movement/connectivity associated with the proposal to widen U.S. Highway 26/89/189/191 south of Jackson, Wyoming, we appreciate the effort involved in evaluating the many transportation, resource management and environmental trade-offs associated with the proposed project.

We particularly appreciate the inclusion of additional information in the FEIS stating that the proposed highway improvements will support the waste load allocation in the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) that will be prepared by the Wyoming Dept. of Environmental Quality for stormwater runoff from the highway into Flat Creek, in response to EPA's DEIS comments. We also want to acknowledge the proposed creation or restoration of 1.41 to 1.88 acres of wetlands to mitigate the loss of 0.94 acres of wetlands; and the proposed inclusion of five wildlife crossings and wildlife fencing to guide animals to wildlife crossings, which should reduce some of the barrier effect of the widened highway to wildlife movement/connectivity.



EPA appreciates the opportunity to review and comment during the NEPA process. If you have any questions please contact me in Denver at 303-312-6004 or you may contact Mr. Stephen Potts of our Montana Office in Helena, Montana at 406-457-5022. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'L. Svoboda', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Larry Svoboda  
Director, NEPA Compliance and Review Program  
Ecosystems Protection and Remediation

Mr. Timothy Stark, Wyoming DOT, Cheyenne